

Message Text

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ORIGIN SS-20

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 ARA-16 EA-11 EUR-25 NEA-10 RSC-01 ISO-00

SSO-00 OMB-01 PRS-01 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03

INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-04 SPC-03 ACDA-19 IO-14

USIE-00 NSCE-00 INRE-00 CCO-00 /169 R

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S/PRS - AMB. MCCLOSKEY

S/S - MR. GAMMON

NEA TASK FORCE - MR. DICKMAN

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Z 251921Z OCT 73 ZFF4

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO ALL DIPLOMATIC AND CONSULAR POSTS FLASH

AMEMBASSY NOUAKCHOTT

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BEIRUT PASS BAGHDAD

INFORM CONSULS

SUBJECT: SECRETARY'S PRESS CONFERENCE

1. THE FOLLOWING IS SUMMARY OF POINTS MADE BY THE SECRETARY AT HIS OCTOBER 25 PRESS CONFERENCE:
2. SINCE OCTOBER 22ND, THERE HAVE BEEN A NUMBER OF CHARGES AND COUNTER-CHARGES OF CEASE-FIRE VIOLATIONS. A PROPOSAL WAS MADE FOR A JOINT US-SOVIET FORCE TO ENFORCE THE CEASE-FIRE.
3. THE US DOES NOT FAVOR AND WILL NOT APPROVE A JOINT US-SOVIET FORCE IN THE MIDDLE EAST. WHAT IS NEEDED, IS A DETERMINATION OF THE FACTS--WHERE THE BELLIGERENT FORCES ARE LOCATED AND WHO IS VIOLATING THE CEASE-FIRE--SO THAT

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THE SECURITY COUNCIL CAN TAKE THE APPROPRIATE ACTION. WE

ARE OPPOSED TO A JOINT US-SOVIET FORCE SINCE THIS WOULD INTRODUCE GREAT POWER RIVALRIES INTO THE MIDDLE EAST, AND ARE ALSO OPPOSED TO THE IMPOSITION OF A MILITARY "CONDOMINIUM" BY THE GREAT POWERS.

4. THE US IS EVEN MORE OPPOSED TO THE UNILATERAL INTRODUCTION OF MILITARY FORCE BY A NUCLEAR POWER UNDER WHATEVER GUISE. RECENT SOVIET MILITARY ACTIONS ARE AMBIGUOUS AND THUS THE PRESIDENT ORDERED A PRECAUTIONARY ALERT OF US FORCES AT 0300, EDT. WE DO NOT CONSIDER OURSELVES IN CONFRONTATION WITH THE USSR AND DO NOT BELIEVE IT NECESSARY AT THIS MOMENT TO HAVE CONFRONTATION.

5. THE SECRETARY OUTLINED THE US POSITION:

(A) THE US STANDS FOR STRICT OBSERVANCE OF UNSC RESOLUTION 338 OF OCTOBER 22;

(B) THE US WILL SUPPORT AND GIVE ASSISTANCE (INCLUDING A LIMITED NUMBER OF PERSONNEL) TO A TRUCE OBSERVER FORCE WHICH REPORTS TO THE SECURITY COUNCIL;

(C) THE US IS PREPARED TO AGREE TO AN INTERNATIONAL PEACE-KEEPING FORCE AS LONG AS NO PERMANENT MEMBER OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL IS A MEMBER OF IT;

(D) THE US IS PREPARED TO MAKE A MAJOR EFFORT AND LEND ITS DIPLOMATIC WEIGHT TO THE SEARCH FOR A POLITICAL SOLUTION, RECOGNIZING THAT THE CIRCUMSTANCES WHICH PRODUCED THE OCTOBER HOSTILITIES MUST BE CHANGED. KISSINGER

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